

## DOCKET SECTION

BEFORE THE  
POSTAL RATE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20268-0001

RECEIVED

JAN 23 4 51 PM '98

POSTAL RATE COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Postal Rate and Fee Changes, 1997

Docket No. R97-1

### INTERROGATORY OF THE ALLIANCE OF NONPROFIT MAILERS TO THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE (ANM/USPS-27) (January 23, 1998)

Pursuant to section 25 of the Commission's rules of practice and section 2.D of the Special Rules of Practice for this Proceeding, the Alliance of Nonprofit Mailers ("ANM") submits the following interrogatory and request for production of documents to the United States Postal Service. The question is a follow-up to the Postal Service's answer to ANM/USPS-22.

**ANM/USPS-27.** Assume that several mailings bearing Nonprofit Standard Mail (A) (or nonprofit third-class) indicia later gave rise to payment of back postage on grounds that each affected mailing was ineligible for nonprofit rates.

- a. When a check is received for payment of the back postage, would the payment be credited to a Standard Mail (A) (commercial) revenue account, or to a Nonprofit Standard Mail (A) revenue account? Please identify the account to which the payment would be credited, and explain why the Postal Service accounts for such

payments in this way.

- b. Assume that the checks for payment of back postage were all received within the same time frame, but in different cities. Would the payment always be credited in the same manner as described in response to preceding part (a), or is it possible that in one city it would be credited one way, but in another city it would be credited differently? Please explain.
- c. If your response to preceding part (b) is that such payments are systematically credited in the same way, please:
  - i. identify the accounting regulation, rule, standard, guideline, instruction, or procedure that specifies the account to which the receipt of payment of back postage (under the circumstances specified here) should be credited, and
  - ii. produce a copy of the accounting regulation, rule, standard, guideline, instruction, or procedure.
- d. When the payment is credited to a revenue account in the manner described in response to preceding part (a), is a new or revised form 3602 filled out? If not, what record(s) is (are) filled out in conjunction with receipt of the payment? Please identify the regulation, rule, standard, guideline, instruction, or procedure that specifies when a new or revised form 3602 is to be filled out, and produce a

copy of the regulation, rule, standard, guideline, instruction, or procedure.

- e. Assume that the check for payment of back postage is received and credited to a revenue account (as described in your response to part (a)) in an office that is part of the PERMIT system. Please describe how the PERMIT system would pick up and reflect these additional revenues in the RPW system. For example, would the PERMIT system pick up revenues without any corresponding mail volumes? If not, how is the situation handled? Please identify the regulation, rule, standard, guideline, instruction, or procedure that specifies how the PERMIT system would pick up and reflect these additional revenues, and produce a copy of the regulation, rule, standard, guideline, instruction, or procedure.
- f. If a revised form 3602 is filled out, does it have the effect of removing the volume for which the payment of back postage is made from the nonprofit category and transferring it to the commercial rate category?
- g. Assume that a nonprofit organization has made a payment for back postage within the same year when the mail was entered and the “case” has been closed. How are the revenues and volumes for the affected mail finally recorded in the revenue accounts and the RPW system? Please identify the regulation, rule, standard, guideline, instruction, or procedure that specifies how the revenues and volumes

for mail affected in this manner should be recorded and reported and produce a copy of the regulation, rule, standard, guideline, instruction, or procedure.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David M. Levy". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and a stylized "L".

Joel T. Thomas  
1800 K Street, N.W., Suite 810  
Washington, D.C. 20006  
(703) 476-4646

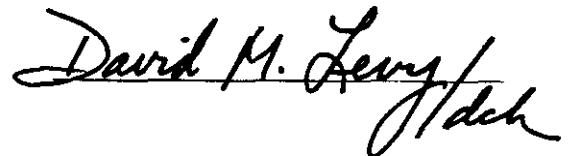
David M. Levy  
SIDLEY & AUSTIN  
1722 Eye Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20006  
(202) 736-8214

*Counsel for the Alliance of Nonprofit Mailers*

January 23, 1998

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that I have this day served the foregoing document on all participants or record in this proceeding in accordance with section 12 of the rules of practice.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David M. Levy". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and a stylized "L".

January 23, 1998